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UBER TECHNOLOGIES, INC.;  
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*[Additional Counsel Listed on Signature Page]*

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA  
SAN FRANCISCO DIVISION**

IN RE: UBER TECHNOLOGIES, INC.,  
PASSENGER SEXUAL ASSAULT  
LITIGATION

MDL No. 3084 CRB

Judge: Honorable Charles Breyer

This Document Relates to:

*Jane Doe LS 257 v. Uber Technologies,  
Inc., et al.*  
Case No.: 3:23-cv-04014-CRB

**DEFENDANTS AND THIRD-PARTY  
PLAINTIFFS UBER TECHNOLOGIES,  
INC.; RASIER, LLC; AND RASIER-CA,  
LLC'S THIRD PARTY COMPLAINT**

**DEFENDANTS' THIRD-PARTY COMPLAINT**

Defendants and Third-Party Plaintiffs Uber Technologies, Inc.; Rasier, LLC; and Rasier-CA, LLC (“Defendants” and “Third-Party Plaintiffs”) by and through their attorneys, hereby allege the following against Bryan Carter (“Third-Party Defendant”):

**GENERAL ALLEGATIONS**

1. Defendant and Third-Party Plaintiff Uber Technologies, Inc. is a California corporation that is registered with and conducts business within the State of California.

2. Defendant and Third-Party Plaintiff Rasier, LLC is a limited liability company that is registered with and conducts business within the State of California.

3. Defendant and Third-Party Plaintiff Rasier-CA, LLC is a limited liability company that is registered with and conducts business within the State of California.

4. Based on information and belief, Third-Party Defendant Bryan Carter is an individual residing in Kansas City, Missouri.

5. Third-Party Plaintiffs Uber Technologies, Inc.; Rasier, LLC; and Rasier-CA, LLC are Defendants in the above-entitled action wherein Jane Doe LS 257 (“Plaintiff”), seeks damages for injuries allegedly caused by Uber Technologies, Inc.; Rasier, LLC; and Rasier-CA, LLC and others, by way of the Plaintiff’s Complaint For Damages And Demand For Jury Trial, filed on August 8, 2023, United States District Court for the Northern District of California, Case No. 3:23-cv-04014-CRB and Plaintiff’s Short-Form Complaint and Demand for Jury Trial, filed on April 10, 2024, in the United States District Court for the Northern District of California, San Francisco Division, Case No. 3:23-cv-04014-CRB, which incorporates by reference the allegations contained in Plaintiffs’ Master Long-Form Complaint filed on February 15, 2024, in the United States District Court for the Northern District of California, San Francisco Division, Case No. 3:23-md-03084-CRB (collectively, the “Complaint”). Third-Party Plaintiffs incorporate the Complaint herein for reference, and deny any fault or liability for causing Plaintiff’s alleged injuries or damages.

6. By way of the Complaint, Plaintiff seeks damages arising from an alleged sexual assault that purportedly occurred in Jackson County, Missouri.

7. In the event that, as a result of the underlying action, it is determined that Plaintiff is

entitled to recover from Third-Party Plaintiffs, and there have been acts or omissions for which Third-Party Plaintiffs are responsible, said acts or omissions were caused by the primary and active tortious or otherwise actionable conduct of the Third-Party Defendant.

### **JURISDICTION**

8. This Court has jurisdiction of the underlying action under 28 U.S.C. § 1332(a)(1) because the amount in controversy exceeds \$75,000, exclusive of interest and costs, and because the underlying action is between citizens of different states.

9. This Court has jurisdiction over this Third-Party Complaint pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1367(a) because the Third-Party Complaint shares a common nucleus of operative facts with the underlying action so that the Third-Party Complaint is so related to the underlying action as to form part of the same case or controversy.

### **DIVISIONAL ASSIGNMENT**

10. Assignment in the Northern District of California, San Francisco Division, is appropriate because the Judicial Panel on Multidistrict Litigation assigned the *In re: Uber Technologies, Inc., Passenger Sexual Assault Litigation* to this Court for consolidated pretrial proceedings pursuant to 28 U.S.C. section 1407 and the underlying action was directly filed in the Northern District of California. *See* Case No. 3:23-md-03084-CRB, Dkt. 1 (“Transfer Order”), Dkt. 177 (“Stipulated Pretrial Order No. 6: Direct Filing”).

### **FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION**

#### **(Contractual Indemnity)**

11. Third-Party Plaintiffs incorporate by reference all preceding paragraphs as if fully set forth herein.

12. Third-Party Defendant entered into multiple written agreements with Third-Party Plaintiffs. Those agreements outline the respective rights and responsibilities relating to Third-Party Defendant’s use of the Uber App. Of particular relevance here, Third-Party Defendant agreed to indemnify and defend Third-Party Plaintiffs, including with respect to claims such as those asserted by Plaintiff in the Complaint against Third-Party Plaintiffs. The circumstances that give rise to Third-Party Defendant’s contractual duty to indemnify and defend are the subject of Plaintiff’s Complaint

1 against Third-Party Plaintiffs.

2 13. On January 8, 2020, Third-Party Defendant entered into a Platform Access Agreement  
3 (“PAA”) with Rasier, LLC. This PAA governed Third-Party Defendant’s “access to [Third-Party  
4 Plaintiffs’] Platform . . . which facilitates [Third-Party Defendant’s] provision of rideshare or peer-to-  
5 peer transportation service . . . to account holders seeking to access certain types of P2P Service . . .  
6 .” (**Exhibit A – Platform Access Agreement, Updated Jan. 6, 2020, p. 1**). It further granted Third-  
7 Party Defendant “a non-exclusive, non-transferable, non-sublicensable, non-assignable license, during  
8 the term of this Agreement, to use our Platform” that was “[s]ubject to the terms and conditions of this  
9 Agreement.” (*Id.* ¶ 2.1). The PAA required the Third-Party Defendant, among other things, to comply  
10 with “all laws . . . that apply to [his] provision of Rides.” (*Id.* ¶ 2.2).

11 14. In connection with the PAA, Third-Party Defendant also entered into an Indemnity  
12 Agreement with Rasier, LLC on January 8, 2020. The Indemnity Agreement provides:

13  
14 To the maximum extent permitted by applicable law, you will  
15 indemnify, defend (at our option) and hold us and our affiliates and  
16 each of our and their respective officers, directors, employees,  
17 agents, or shareholders harmless from and against all claims,  
18 liabilities, expenses (including reasonable attorney’s fees and  
19 related expenses), damages, penalties, fines, social security  
contributions and taxes (“*Losses*”) asserted by a third party and  
arising out of or related to your breach or alleged breach of the  
Agreement or this Indemnity Agreement, your provision of Rides,  
your access to our Platform or your interaction with any third party.

20 (**Exhibit B—Indemnity Agreement, Updated Jan. 6, 2020, ¶ 1.1**).

21 15. Both the PAA and the indemnity agreement provide that the law of the state where  
22 Third-Party Defendant resided when he entered into the agreements governs the agreements. Based on  
23 information and belief, Third-Party Defendant resided in Missouri. (**Exhibit A, ¶ 12.7; Exhibit B, ¶**  
24 **6**).

25 16. Plaintiff’s Complaint alleges, among other things, conduct entitling Plaintiff to  
26 compensatory damages against Third-Party Plaintiffs. Specifically, Plaintiff’s Complaint alleges that  
27 on or about February 1, 2020, while Third-Party Defendant “should have been delivering the Plaintiff  
28

1 safely to her destination, the [Third-Party Defendant] sexually assaulted her. The [Third-Party  
 2 Defendant] pulled over and raped Plaintiff.” **(Pl.’s Compl. For Damages And Demand For Jury  
 3 Trial, filed on August 8, 2023, United States District Court for the Northern District of California,  
 4 Case No. 2:23-cv-04014, ¶¶171-72); Pl.’s Short-Form Compl. and Demand for Jury Trial, United  
 5 States District Court for the Northern District of California, San Francisco Division, Case No.  
 6 2:23-cv-04014, ¶ C1 (“The Plaintiff was sexually assaulted, harassed, battered, or otherwise  
 7 attacked by [Third-Party Defendant] in connection with a ride facilitated on the Uber platform  
 8 in Jackson County, Missouri on February 1, 2020.”).**

9 17. The damages alleged by Plaintiff arise out of or relate to Third-Party Defendant’s  
 10 alleged tortious or otherwise actionable conduct, which arises out of or relates to his breach of the PAA  
 11 and the Indemnity Agreement with Third-Party Plaintiffs, provision of rides, access to Third-Party  
 12 Plaintiffs’ platform, and interaction with a third party.

13 18. Third-Party Defendant’s alleged tortious or otherwise actionable conduct is therefore  
 14 covered by the PAA and the Indemnity Agreement he entered into with Third-Party Plaintiffs and gives  
 15 rise to Third-Party Defendant’s contractual duty to indemnify and defend.

16 19. Third-Party Plaintiffs deny liability for the events and occurrences described in  
 17 Plaintiff’s Complaint.

18 20. Third-Party Defendant’s alleged tortious or otherwise actionable conduct was the direct  
 19 and proximate cause of the damages alleged by Plaintiff.

20 21. As a result, if Third-Party Plaintiffs are found in some manner liable to Plaintiff in this  
 21 action under any theory of recovery, Third-Party Plaintiffs allege that their liability would be based  
 22 solely upon a derivative form of liability not resulting from their conduct and, therefore, are entitled to  
 23 complete indemnity from Third-Party Defendant.

24 22. By reason of the foregoing, Third-Party Plaintiffs are entitled to be fully defended and  
 25 indemnified by Third-Party Defendant for any amounts which may in good faith be paid by way of  
 26 compromise, settlement, or judgment. Additionally, Third-Party Plaintiffs are entitled to all costs,  
 27 expenses, and attorneys’ fees that Third-Party Plaintiffs incurred in the defense of the underlying action  
 28 brought by Plaintiff and the prosecution of this Third-Party Complaint.

**SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION**

**(Equitable Indemnity)**

23. Third-Party Plaintiffs incorporate herein each allegation set forth above.

24. Alternatively, if the Court were to find that Third-Party Plaintiffs are not entitled to contractual indemnity from Third-Party Defendant, Third-Party Plaintiffs allege that they are entitled to equitable indemnity from Third-Party Defendant.

25. Plaintiff's Complaint alleges, among other things, that Third-Party Plaintiffs are vicariously liable for Third-Party Defendant's conduct.

26. Third-Party Plaintiffs deny any relationship giving rise to vicarious liability for Third-Party Defendant's conduct.

27. If Third-Party Plaintiffs are found vicariously liable for Third-Party Defendant's conduct, any such relationship between Third-Party Plaintiffs and Third-Party Defendant that gives rise to vicarious liability also gives rise to equitable indemnity.

28. Third-Party Plaintiffs deny liability for the events and occurrences described in Plaintiff's Complaint, and, if Plaintiff has been injured or damaged as alleged in the Complaint, any such injuries or damages were directly and proximately caused and contributed to by the negligence or other tortious conduct of Third-Party Defendant.

29. As a result, if Third-Party Plaintiffs are found in some manner liable to Plaintiff in this action under any theory of recovery, Third-Party Plaintiffs allege that their liability would be based solely upon a derivative form of liability not resulting from their conduct, and, therefore, are entitled to complete indemnity from Third-Party Defendant.

30. Under the foregoing circumstances, Third-Party Plaintiffs are entitled to be fully indemnified by Third-Party Defendant for any amounts which may in good faith be paid by way of compromise, settlement, or judgment.

31. Third-Party Plaintiffs are further entitled to be held harmless and indemnified by Third-Party Defendant for the reasonable costs incurred in the defense of this action and prosecuting this Third-Party Complaint, and for attorneys' fees incurred herein.

**THIRD CAUSE OF ACTION**

**(Contribution)**

32. Third-Party Plaintiffs incorporate herein each allegation set forth above.

33. If Plaintiff has been injured or damaged as alleged in the Complaint, any such injuries or damages were directly and proximately caused and contributed to by the negligence or other tortious conduct of Third-Party Defendant, such that Third-Party Defendant is a tortfeasor, originally liable to Plaintiff.

34. The fault, acts, or omissions of Third-Party Plaintiffs, if any, must be compared with the fault, acts, or omissions of Third-Party Defendant or any other persons or parties.

35. Under the foregoing circumstances, any award of damages to Plaintiff pursuant to her claims in the Complaint must be apportioned to, and be paid by, Third-Party Defendant according to the degree of Third-Party Defendant's fault, acts, or omissions.

36. As a result, if Third-Party Plaintiffs are held liable to Plaintiff on any of the allegations made in the Complaint, Third-Party Defendant, to the extent of Third-Party Defendant's fault, is obligated to reimburse and will be liable to Third-Party Plaintiffs for any liabilities so assessed by way of contribution. Accordingly, Third-Party Plaintiffs assert herein their rights to such contribution. Specifically, Third-Party Plaintiffs assert that Third-Party Defendant is obligated to provide an equitable contribution to any judgment or settlement herein awarded in direct proportion to the amount of negligence or fault of the Third-Party Defendant.

**FOURTH CAUSE OF ACTION**

**(Declaratory Relief)**

37. Third-Party Plaintiffs incorporate herein each allegation set forth above.

38. Without in any way acknowledging any liability to Plaintiff, Third-Party Plaintiffs allege that, if Third-Party Plaintiffs are ultimately held liable in this action, such liability will be the direct and proximate result of the negligent or otherwise actionable conduct of Third-Party Defendant. As a result, Third-Party Plaintiffs allege that Third-Party Defendant is obligated to fully or partially indemnify Third-Party Plaintiffs for the sums that they may be compelled to pay as a result of any damages, judgments, or other awards against Third-Party Plaintiffs in this action, if any, and to pay



1 Third-Party Plaintiffs' attorneys' fees and costs incurred in defending against the claims of Plaintiff in  
2 this action and prosecuting the claims asserted by way of the Third-Party Complaint.

3 39. Third-Party Plaintiffs desire a judicial determination of the respective rights and duties  
4 of Third-Party Plaintiffs and Third-Party Defendant with respect to the damages claimed in Plaintiff's  
5 Complaint. In particular, Third-Party Plaintiffs desire a declaration of the respective liabilities of  
6 Third-Party Plaintiffs and Third-Party Defendant for such damages, if any, and a declaration of Third-  
7 Party Defendant's responsibilities to indemnify Third-Party Plaintiffs and to hold them harmless from  
8 any sums that they may be compelled to pay, and for the attorneys' fees and costs Third-Party Plaintiffs  
9 have already incurred and will incur in defending against Plaintiff's claims and prosecuting the claims  
10 asserted by way of the Third-Party Complaint.

11 40. Such a declaration is necessary and appropriate at this time to enable Third-Party  
12 Plaintiffs to ascertain their rights and duties with respect to the defense of this action and the payment  
13 of any damages, judgment, or other awards that may be recovered against them by  
14 Plaintiff. Furthermore, the claims of Plaintiff and the claims of Third-Party Plaintiffs arise out of the  
15 same transaction and occurrence, and a determination of both in one proceeding is necessary and  
16 appropriate to avoid the multiplicity of actions that would result if Third-Party Plaintiffs are required  
17 to defend against the claims of Plaintiff in the Complaint and then bring a subsequent action against  
18 Third-Party Defendant for indemnification and contribution of sums that Third-Party Plaintiffs may be  
19 compelled to pay as a result of any damages, judgments, or other awards recovered by Plaintiff against  
20 Third-Party Plaintiffs, if any.

21 **PRAYER**

22 Wherefore, Third-Party Plaintiffs respectfully pray for the following judgment:

23 1. For judgment against Third-Party Defendant on the First Cause of Action, awarding  
24 Third-Party Plaintiffs total contractual indemnity for any amounts which may in good faith be paid by  
25 Third-Party Plaintiffs to Plaintiff by way of compromise, settlement, or judgment;

26 2. For judgment against Third-Party Defendant on the Second Cause of Action, awarding  
27 Third-Party Plaintiffs complete indemnity for any sum Third-Party Plaintiffs must pay to Plaintiff;

28 3. For judgment against Third-Party Defendant on the Third Cause of Action, in the form



1 of contribution based on Third-Party Defendant's proportionate share of fault on any sums adjudged  
2 against Third-Party Plaintiffs, if any, in favor of Plaintiff herein;

3 4. For a judicial determination on the Fourth Cause of Action of the responsibilities of  
4 Third-Party Defendant to fully or partially indemnify and hold Third-Party Plaintiffs harmless from  
5 any damages, judgment, or other awards that may be recovered against Third-Party Plaintiffs by  
6 Plaintiff on the Complaint pursuant to principles of indemnity or contribution;

7 5. For any other equitable decree or order required to apportion liability and damages, and  
8 ensure Third-Party Defendant reimburses Third-Party Plaintiffs for any payments they make to Plaintiff  
9 in excess of Third-Party Plaintiffs' proportionate share of fault, if any;

10 6. That Third-Party Plaintiffs be awarded their attorneys' fees and costs incurred in this  
11 action to the extent permitted by law; and

12 7. For any and such further relief as the Court may determine is just and proper.

13  
14 DATED: November 5, 2024

Respectfully submitted,

15  
16 **SHOOK, HARDY & BACON L.L.P.**

17 By: /s/ Michael B. Shortnacy

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